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## Sen. Howard Marklein "Rides-Along" With Grant County Judges

MADISON— State Senator Howard Marklein (R-Spring Green) recently spent several hours observing and meeting with Judge Robert VanDeHey and Judge Craig Day at the Grant County Circuit Court to gain a better understanding of the main issues and challenges faced by our local judicial system.

"I appreciated the opportunity to spend some time in our courts with Judge VanDeHey and Judge Day," Marklein said. "I feel like I have a much better understanding of the types of cases our Judges hear in Grant County.

"During our conversations, I learned more about the lack of drug treatment and mental health services available to those who need them in Southwest Wisconsin. Prior to my ride-along, I understood that there were challenges to find providers and treatment, but I didn't understand the details of some of the challenges that are created by state laws.

"Meeting with the Judges was extremely helpful for me, as a legislator, because it helps me to understand how the decisions we are making in the state legislature will impact the judicial system and those who move through it.

"Judge VanDeHey and Judge Day are among the people who have to implement and apply the rules that we create. In addition, Judge VanDeHey serves on the Wisconsin Judicial Commission, which creates and enforces high standards for all judicial behavior and offers him an even deeper view into the issues we work on. I look forward to tapping their vast knowledge and resources as we work together to make the best decisions on behalf of the people we both serve."

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